

HOUSE BILL 2682

By Casada

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 14, Part 5, relative to punishing individuals who dispose of burning debris from a vehicle.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-504(a), is amended by deleting the present language in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(a) Criminal littering is littering:

(1) In an amount more than five pounds (5 lbs.) in weight or seven and one half (7.5) cubic feet in volume and less than or equal to ten pounds (10 lbs.) in weight or fifteen (15) cubic feet in volume, or

(2) Placing, dropping, throwing or discharging any lighted or nonlighted tobacco product or any flaming or glowing substance, or any substance or thing which may cause a fire from a motor vehicle upon any highway, sidewalk, or public or private property. This subsection does not restrict a private owner in ownership of real property, unless the placing, depositing, or dumping of the waste matter on the property creates a fire safety hazard, as determined by the local health department, local fire department or fire district or the department of state forestry commission.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-504(b), is amended by adding the language "and any person convicted of violating this section shall be punished by a mandatory fine of no more than five hundred dollars (\$500)" following the language "Class B misdemeanor".

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it.